

Colorado Swing Classic Code of Conduct

The Colorado Swing Classic is dedicated to providing a safe and comfortable event experience for everyone; therefore, all attendees, instructors, staff, and volunteers at the Colorado Swing Classic are required to comply with the following code of conduct. Organizers will enforce this code throughout the event. We expect cooperation from all participants to help ensure a safe environment for everybody

- If you need help at the event:
- Please call 911 for emergencies
- Please find an event organizer in person by requesting one at the front desk or the DJ booth
- Please send an email to coloradoswingclassic@gmail.com with the subject line Code of Conduct

We reserve the right to handle any violations of this code of conduct as we deem necessary, which may include ejection from the event without a refund. We also reserve the right to refuse admission for any reason.

The Colorado Swing Classic. is dedicated to providing a safe and comfortable event experience for everyone, regardless of gender, age, sexual orientation, ability, physical appearance, body size, race, or religion (or lack thereof). We do not tolerate harassment of event participants in any form. Event participants violating these rules may be sanctioned or expelled from the event *without a refund* at the discretion of the event organizers. We expect you to treat others with kindness and respect.

Harassment includes, but is not limited to: offensive verbal comments or actions related to gender, age, sexual orientation, ability, physical appearance, body size, race, religion, sexual images in public spaces, deliberate intimidation, stalking, following, harassing photography or recording, sustained disruption of workshops or other events, inappropriate physical contact, and unwelcome sexual attention.

Participants asked to stop any harassing behavior are expected to comply immediately.

If a participant engages in harassing behavior, the event organizers will take any action they deem appropriate, including warning the offender or immediate expulsion from the event with no refund.

If you are being harassed, notice that someone else is being harassed, or have any other concerns, please contact an event organizer immediately. Event organizers can be found by requesting one at the front desk or at the DJ booth. Alternatively, please send an email to coloradoswingclassic@gmail.com with the subject line "Code of Conduct".

Event organizers will be happy to help participants contact venue staff or local law enforcement, provide escorts, or otherwise assist those experiencing harassment to feel safe for the duration of the event. We value your attendance and your safety.

Help keep others safe We all love trying new dance patterns and movements, but be mindful of the inherent risk of injury. Any movement that increases the danger of hurting your partner (or other dancers) makes for unsafe dancing. Avoid forceful movements that could cause an injury by yanking or jerking your partner, or making your partner move before they are ready. Avoid lifts, drops, or other dramatic weight-supported moves that your partner may not be prepared for. (For example, don't suddenly throw yourself or your partner into a dip.) You never know when someone might be nursing a tender shoulder, bad back, or cranky hip. You also don't know when your "tricks" could accidentally cause those issues for someone. Be mindful of other dancers around you to avoid accidental collisions and potential injuries. Be especially careful when the dance floor gets crowded. If anyone near you falls or is injured, please offer immediate assistance and check if they are okay. If you see that someone needs medical attention, contact a member of our staff immediately, or call the hotel operator and ask for the medical first response team. In an emergency, call 911.

Be a good citizen Dancers of all ages and levels of ability will be at our event. You can help grow our dance community by welcoming beginners and demonstrating to parents that dancing is a safe activity for their children. Our door monitors are volunteers. Please be prepared to show your event wristband if asked. Don't solicit our attendees for any cause (no matter how worthy), or sell any goods or services, if you have not received approval to do so from event staff. (A table will be available for other event flyers.) Per Colorado state law, no smoking is allowed in any of the indoor public areas of the hotel. This includes ecigarettes. Smoking is only allowed in designated outdoor smoking areas. Do not attempt to sneak into the event without paying, damage or steal other people's property, or give alcohol to anyone under 21. (This all goes without saying, but we're saying it explicitly for the sake of clarity.) We will report offenders to hotel staff (or the police) if necessary. We will ask hotel security to remove anyone who appears to be intoxicated or "high" and might be a danger to others, or who engages in disorderly or destructive behavior. Those who cause property damage will be personally liable.

Staff Expectations

At the Colorado Swing Classic, we strive to run our event with the highest possible level of integrity and professionalism. It is important to us that our judges are expert and unbiased, and that our teachers understand that modeling behavior can be as important as teaching content. In their role as our professional staff, we entrust that they judge contests fairly and teach great workshops, but also engage with other event participants in a way that reflects well on the credibility of their station. Specific objectives for our staff include:

Give contestants your full, unimpaired attention during contests.

Refrain from talking to other judges, or conversing with competitors, while you are judging.

Consultations with the head judge are an exception.

Keep your phone put away when you are judging.

Judge sober. Consuming alcohol prior to or during judging assignments, publicly or to the point that your judgement is in any way impaired in the opinion of the head judge, is not allowed, and may be basis for immediate dismissal from a judging panel.

Respect the work of our contest staff and your fellow professionals.

Help us stay on time by checking in with the head judge 15 minutes before each of your assigned judging sessions, and being prompt for workshops.

Speak respectfully of your fellow staff at all times.

Do not discuss placements until after those scores are posted.

Understand that you carry serious responsibility in your professional role.

Personal relationships with contestants, good or bad, may influence your judging or create the appearance of conflict. It is your responsibility to inform the head judge of any close personal relationships you have with any contestants so we may recuse you from that panel.

Your position on our staff gives you influence over others and increases your level of personal responsibility: a. Using your role as judge to coerce or exert undue influence on contestants, whether stated or implied, to take private lessons or coaching, or engage in sexual contact, is not ethical. b. Because of your position of authority, the burden to obtain freely given consent is greater for you, and perhaps harder to ascertain.

- You have a unique ability as admired professional staff to publicly model respectful behavior both on and off the competition floor. Please read and understand our Code of Conduct and be prepared to support our community in working together to create a safe, respectful environment for attendees, staff, and audiences alike. Concerns about attendees or other staff members may be discussed in confidence with either event director or the head judge at any time. Questions about your role, or about these guidelines, are always welcome.

We attend dance events to connect with each other and share our love of dance. Dance is for everyone. Together, we must create a safe space for all. Please be respectful and be kind to everyone.

Have questions or need help?

You can always contact:

Terra Summers, Event Director: 720-289-0662

Courtney Adair, Head Judge: 720-340-8762

If you cannot reach Terra or Courtney, ask a Colorado Swing Classic staff member at event registration for help.

Gratitude to the Next Generation Swing Dance Club, the Atlanta Swing Dancers Club & Kay Newhouse and Dave Moldover/ Dance Jam Productions for their support in crafting the above Code of Conduct